IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

B.   Amendments to the Specification.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at Page 3, Line 18 with the following:

5   Nodes within the network, which might otherwise have a telephone jack for connecting to phone or modem, are connected to a network device called a voice and data module (VDM). A phone and a computer can be connected simultaneously to each VDM at each node of the network. At a node exiting the HVDN is a link to wide area network (LTW) device that is connected to an ISP and a PSTN. Communications between nodes

10   of the network uses the Token in Ethernet Protocol (TEP) technology to enable a mix of voice and data signals to communicate simultaneously within the network. **TEP technology is described in U.S. Patent No. 6,751,213, issued to *Sun et al.* on June 15, 2004.** Each VDM device converts voice and data to Ethernet packets to be sent over the HVDN network and converts received packets to voice and data signals to be sent to the

15   attached phone and computer. Similarly, the LTW device converts received Ethernet packets to signals to communicate with an ISP or the PSTN, and converts incoming signals from the ISP and PSTN to Ethernet packets.

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